EMPLOYABILITY OF YOUNG GRADUATES IN EUROPE

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Abstract

The Education Council adopted in May 2012 a new ET2020 benchmark on graduates’ employability, defined as the share of 20-34 year-olds, not currently engaged in any further education or training, that is employed 1 to 3 years after graduation. Using the same data source as the benchmark (namely, the annual LFS microdata from 2004 to 2010) and the ad-hoc 2009 LFS data, this paper presents pre-crisis and crisis estimates of that employment probability, by country, by country and gender and by country and field of education, controlling for individual and institutional characteristics, including specific education reforms. Finally, to understand the nature of this youth employment, among those who are employed, we estimate the probability of having a permanent vs. temporary contract and the probability of working full-time vs. part-time.

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